THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

Board of Health of the Health Department

OF THE

CITY OF NEW YORK.

APRIL 11, 1870-APRIL 10, 1871.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
No. 301 MOTT STREET, NEW YORK,
APRI 27, 1871.
To the Hon. A. OAKEY HALL, Mayor of the Chy New York:—
Siz.—I have the honor to transmit herewith the annual report of the Board of Health of the Health Department of the Chy of New York, for the year ending April 10, 1871, with an appendix thereto.

By order of the Board,
EMMONS CLARK, Secretary.

Beard of Health. Joseph S. Hosword, Benjamin F. Manterre, Commissioners. Thomas J. Entr.) John M. Carnochan, M. D., health Omcer of the Port.

Stephen Smith, M. D., Glovanni Commissioners.

Health Commissioners. PERSIDENT. Joseph S. Bosworth.

SECRETARY, Emmons Clark.

Cleaning.
John Mullaly.

STANDING COMMITTEES. Santary Co am tice. August Gross.

Committee on Permits.

Stephen Smith, M. D.

John Mullaty.

Heary San in.

Toomas J. Ear.

Committee on Finance.

Magnus Gross.

Ramus Gross.

Comen the on Finance.
Magnus Gross,
Benjamin F. Manierre,
Thomas J. Barr.
Commutes on Law and
Ordinances. Commutee o. Vital Stationary Thomas J. Barr Commutes on Glovanni Cee arini, M.D. John M. Carnochan, M.D. Magnus Gross. Stephen Smith, M. D. John Mullaly. John Mulialy. Benjamin F. Manierre.

Officers of the Board. CITY SANITARY INSCECTOR AND SANITARY SUPER-Mcreau Morris, M. D.

MCPGRU MOFTIS, M. D.

HEALTH INSPECTORS.

1. L. Demainville, M. D.
2. Whilard F. Deming, M. D.
3. Edward H. Janes, S. Charles F. Roberts, M. D.
4. H. Dewitt Joy, M. D.
5. S. F. Moftis, M. D.
6. S. F. Moftis, M. D.
6. Augustus Viele, M. D.
6. SANTARY PERMIT INSPECTOR,
CHAPLES M. COOPET.
INSPECTOR OF STREET CLEANING.
Thomas Cottman, M. D.
REGISTER OF RECOADS.

REGISTER OF RECORDS.
Charles P. Russel, M. D.
DEPUTY REGISTER OF RECORDS.
John T. Nagle, M. D.
ATTERNEY AND COUNSEL.
ARON J. Vanderpoel. ENGINBER. Charles H. Haswell-ANALYTICAL CHEMIST. Charles F. Chandler, Ph. D. CHIEF CLERK. George S. Hastings.

To the Hon. A. OAKBY HALL, Mayor of the City of New York:-

The Board of Realth, of the Realth Department of the city of New York, respectfully transmits its arst appual report, which includes a review of its proceedings from its organization, April 11, 1870, to the 10th day of April, 1871, being a period of one

By the "Act to reorganize the local government of the city of New York" (chapter 137 of the Laws of 1870), passed April 5, 1870, the city of New York was excepted from the provisions of the act entitled "An act to create a Metropolitan Sanitary District and a Board of Health therein for the preservation of life and health and to prevent the spread of dis-ease," passed February 26, 1866. The same act (articles fourth and eleventh) creates a Health Department, and declares that such depart ment shall be a board consisting of the Police Commissioners of the city of New York, the Health Officer of the Port, and also four officers to be called Health of the city of New York. five years, two of whom must have been practising physians in said city for a period of five years preceding their appointment.

On the 9th day of April the Mayor, Hon. A. Oakey Ball, by virtue of the authority conferred by the act enutled "An act to reorganize the local government of the city of New York," made the appointments of the heads of departments in the government of the Corporation of New York city, as established by said set. On the 11th day of April the Board of Health, of the Health Department, was temporarily organized, there being present for said purpose the following named Police Commissioners, to wtt:--Joseph S. Bosworth, Henry Smith, Matthew T. Brennan and Benjamin F. Manierre: and the following named Heath Commissioners:—Stephen Smith, M. D.; Glovanni Ceccarini, M. D.; Magnus Gross and John Mulialy; absent, Dr. John M. Carnochan, Heath Officer of the Port. In the temporary organization of the Board Commissioner Benjamin F. Manierre was elected President, and Emmons Clark, Secretary. The Board of Heatht, of the Health Department of the city of New York, succeeded to all the powers and duties of the Metropolitan Board of Health so far as relates to New York city, and that the necessary business of the department might poutning to be transacted without interruption until a permanent organization was effected the Board adopted the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the several officers, clerks and employes of the Metropolitan Board of Health, in office and doine duty, respectively, in the city of New York on the 4th of April, 18th, except the president, secretary, counsel, attorney, clamist and engineer of said Board, be and are hereby transferred to the Health Department created by chapter 137 of the Laws of 13th, and they are everyally hereby authorized and appointed, until the further order of this Board, to perform all the services which they were respectively authorized as appointed, until the further order of this Board, to perform all the services which they were respectively authorized to perform in add for the Netropolitan Enord of Health, sot inconsistent with or contrary to the provinces of and chapter 137 of the Laws of 18th.

The Board was permanently organized on the 27th day of April, 1870, by the election of Commissioner 7. Brennan and Benjamin F. Manierre; and the fol-

Health, to the consistent win or contrary to the provinces of said chapter 137 of the Laws of 1810.

The Board was permanently organized on the 27th day of April, 1870, by the election of Commissioner Joseph S. Bosworth as President, and Emmons Clark as Secretary; and during the months of April and May the Board selected and appointed a full corps of officers and clerks in place of those temporarily retained by resolution of April 2.

ORGANIZATION OF BUREAUS.

On the 27th day of April the Board preceded to the organization of the bureaus provided for by section 91 of chapter 137, Laws of 1870, and adopted the following resolutions:—

which shall be called the "sautiary Inspection Sureau;" the chief-officer of this bureau hand be caused "Otty Sanitary Inspector."

Resolved, That until the further order of this board, the clip Sanitary Inspector is authorized to do and perform, and that he do and perform the several acts and matters which the Sanitary Superintendent of the Metropolitan Board of Health, on the 4th of April, 1876, was authorized to do and perform, not inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of chapter 187 of the Laws of 1870, seeps authorized to do and perform.

Resolved, That there shall be a bureau in this department which shall be called the "Bureau or Records of Vital Statistics," the chief officer of this bureau shall be called the "Register of Henorics," In Said bureau shall be recorded, without fees, every birth, marriage and death, and all insplicitions of coroners (excepting those whereby a jury find a death caused by negligetors or malicious injury, which shall occur or be taken within the city of New York. The records and papers or this department was of the Metropolitan Board of Health, "twansterset to into department by act and overation of law, relating to the registration of marriage, births and deaths in the city of New York, shall be in chapted of the Register of Records. After the Register of Records shall enter upon the duties of his office all permits for the removal of the body of any deceased person from the city of New York for Interment, and all burial permits and permits for the removal of the body of any deceased person from the city of New York shall be granted and signed by the Register of Records.

Burning the month of May the Board organized

During the month of May the Board organized the "Bureau of Street Cleaning," and on the 1st day of June appointed a chief officer of the same, called the "inspector of Street Cleaning," The "Samilary Permit Eureau" was also organized, as required by law, and on the Son of May the Board appointed a riner officer of the same, called the "Samilary Permit Inspector,"

It being the duty of the Board, immediately upon its organization, to cause to ue conformed to article it of chapter 187, Laws of 1870, the code of laws and regulations lately adopted by the Board of Health for the Metropolitan Sanitary district, to be called the "Sanitary Code." The Beard, on the 27th day of April, adopted the following resolution:—

Besolved, That a committee, consuming of two members of this heard, he appointed to prepare and report for the conditionation of the Board and a modification of the code of laws and regulations adopted by the Board of Health for the Metropolitan Sanitary district, and in force on the 5th laws and regulations adopted by the Board of Health for the description of the Board of the Laws of Laws and regulations and the committee of the Sanitary district, and in force on the 5th laws and regulations adopted by the Board, on the 27th day of April, 1870, as will conform the same to the eleventh points of the Laws of 1870, regular wait.

The committee appropriate.

The committee appointed under the above resolution consisted of Commissioners Ceccarin, S. Smith, Fross, Brennan and Mamerre, and said committee was authorized to secure the services of A. J. Vanderpeel, Esq., as counsel in the consideration of the natters referred to the committee and in the preparation of the report.

On the same day the Board adopted the relevant

on the lacessary.

On the 1sth day of May the sanitary code, as reported by the committee, was adopted by the Board, together with the rules and regulations as mostled and amended. On the same day the standing committees authorized by the rules and regulations of the Board were appointed by the Fresident.

REVIEW OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD.

The various subjects brought under the consideration of the Board, and the results which have followed, so far as ascertained, will appear from the

The year eading April 10, 1871:—

1. Drawage of Fucust Lots.—This important subject has received due consideration, and under the orders of the Board many vacant lots have been relieved of Stagmant water. In cases where fluisances of this character could be abated by street sewers, the attention of the Pepartment of Fusing Works has been called to the santow heressity of consideration. has been called to the sanitary becassity of con-structing sewers in certain sire is, and that depart-ment has promptly inforded the required relief. In other cases it has been found necessary to other vacant lots to be filled sufficiently to throw the sur-

a. Sized Cleaning.—The cleaning of the streets is unquestionably of the greatest importance to the public health, and must always receive the attention of the proper autionities. On the 966 of June, 1995, a contract for cleaning the streets of the edgy of New York for a period of the 1966 of June, 1995, a contract for cleaning the streets of the edgy of New York for a period of the streets was mane by the Commissioners appointed for that purpose of 21 and the Legislature passed May 1, 1895, with Massia. From, bevoe and Knapp. The contractors, for a specides usin, agreed to thoroughly decan all the paved streets and avenues, and all the lanes and silesys, and all guilers, whatever, person and masses, grabage, rubbish and sweepings of every kind from the streets, every twenty-four hours, sundays excepted, and that a few of the principal business streets and avenues should be swept twice or thrite weekly. That the cleaning of certain other streets, especially those wands are density populated by the indegent classes, and during the summer months more frequently than is required by the functional of the companion of reduce the foundation of the streets as they should from time to tune organization of the formal properties of states as they should from time to tune organization of the formal masses and milections diseases, for the public health to require. Frending the organization of the formal masses and milections diseases for the public health to require. Frending the organization of the formal masses and milections diseases for the public health of the public health to require. Frending the organization of the formal masses and milections diseases for the public health of these work required, the Board amborized the City Santary inspector and the inspector of Street Cleaning contractor as to the rates for fue acational work required, and to thoroughly disminect the guiters of said sirects. The Board aisso directed the City Santary Inspector and the inspector of Street Cleaning contractor and the inspector of St

The old and dilapidated wooden structures which now surround the business portions of New York form a vast network within which the sewage of the city, composed of house and privy fith, the remose of slaughter houses, workshops and manufactories accumulates, and together with the waste of conducte accumulates, and together with the waste of conducte and the constant indux of sediment from adjacent shores forms a stratum of putrescrible organic matter of great depth and extent. By the movements of the tides and of the vessels this vast bed of fifth is constantly agitated, its elements interanxed and the process of decomposition thereby mastened. The result is apparent to those who frequent the docks in the summer season in the escape of immense quantities of the most offensive and delete four gases. Not unirequently laborers along shore are competial to leave their work, so ofcasive and sickening are

every part of the banking and the nearth and social condition of the occupants. During this survey all numbers discovered were reported in regular form, and were subjects for orders of the board, and all violations of the "Tenement House Act," and cases of non-compliance with said not, were, after due notice, prosecuted by the attorney. In the name of the Board, for the penalty imposed by law, Indeed decisive measures have resulted in the forproved vendiation, sewerage and general cleaminess of tenement houses, and have materially aided in preserving the sealth and promoting the comion of an important portant of the city population during the remarkable near of the last summer.

The Register's report shows a most gratifying improvement in the neaths of the insabinants of tenement houses. Anthongu less than one-half the foliation of New York occupy tenement houses, yet nearly 78 per cent of the total mortantly occurred almong this class in 1853; in 1853 in 1853

that their apparatus effectually consumes all offensive cases, and that the four odors complained of in the vicinity of the foot of West Thirty-eighth street originate from other manufacturing establishments in that locality.

12. Renoted of Night Soll.—A contract was made on the less day of May. 1885, by the City Inspector with Thomas Andrews, for a period of ten years, to receive from the night scavengers the night soil of the city, and to deliver the same to the "Loci Manufacturing Company." at his factory on the flacken-

accomplished in this orance of the point basiness, as the complaints of neglect and extortion, formersy so frequent against ingut scavengers, have almost entirely ceased.

13. Social and Other Refuse Matter—To abate the nursance caused by the transportation of swill and other refuse matter. Hom the city the foard on the 22d day of Jane adopted an aiditional orangace requiring that hotel or house swill or garonge or offensive material of a highd nature or parity lightly not removed or required to be removed by the contractor for streetleading shall not be transported along or through any street of the city of New York except in tightly covered ironbound cases or oxes, and that none of the contents of such casks or boxes shall be allowed to fall or leak or split there rom. The Board has also required parties engaged in this basiness to present their carts and receptaces for inspection, and has issued pertaits to such persons as have the proper facilities for performing their work in an inogensive mannaer.

14. Staughtering of Annuals.—All permits for slaughtering animals in the city of New York granted by the Metropolitan Board of Health having ocea revoired, this Board caused a careful inspection to be made of all existing slaughtering establishments, and the reports of the inspectors were granted whenever it was ascertained that due to the fact of the sabilary committee for further examination and consideration. To those slaughter nouses afready located and in operation shock provided the formal and to peration above Forticith street permits to continue the business were granted whenever it was ascertained that due attendon was given by the proprietors to the cleaniness, to the drainage and to such other measures as are necessary in conducting the business. The whole number of permits for slaughtering granted by this Board is 34; of which number 19 are for slaughtering cattle, 5 for swine and 10 for speep and clives. The number of slaughtering and the manner parts of the manner of the manner of the manner of th

tional orangance, probabiling the menting or render-ing of fat, tailow or fard, except when fresh from the stanganered animal, and taken directly from the places of stangance in the city of New York, and in a condition free from surgant

the stangmered animal, and taken directly from the places of satigners in the city of New York, and in a condition free from sourcess and taint and all other causes of otherice at the time of reheering. The ordinance further provides that all metting and rendering shall be in steam-tight vessels, the gases and odors therefrom to be destroyed by combustion or other means equally effective, and that the promises where the same is conducted must be free from an offensive odors and other cause of detriment to the public health. The bringing of tat, lard or tailow (except as a part of the living animal) and the enting or rendering of the same, are also prohibited. On the third and lard meiting oasiness of a "nearing" before the Sanitary Committee, in order to present their views, verbally or in writing, as to the best mode of carrying on said thisness, and in locations which cannot be objected to, this nearing restinced in the concussion that a distinction must be made between the camering of fresh and, when it sued as an article of food, and which, if how the lard winds a windton must be made between the canering of fresh mard, when it sued as an article of food, and which, if how the lard winds a windton must be made of commerce, does not depreciate so maternally if sour or tainted. Permits were therefore granted, sueject to the ordinance above referred to, "so met or render fresh leave, provided such fresh lard is faxen from its singlificred animal in on the premises where it is to be rendered." The food remed to grant permits to must fat or failow at any pance waitin the bundup portions of the city.

18. Other Opensie Prades.—In addition to the various kinds of business connected what the shaughtered animal in on the premises where it is to be rendered." The food remed to the rannifaction of must be such as a supercondition of the continuence of animals, which, it catenessy or improperly conducted are failed to be complained of, the attenting bursants located in the crowner parts of the chart and continuence man

18. Chemical Inspections.—On the 22d day of June Processor Charges F. Chandler was appointed chemical to this department, and was directed to continue the investigations of milks, foods, Croton water and kero-ene, undertaken by the actroposition Board of Heath.

The amount and character of the work performed by the chemist is deamed in his anadai report. (See Appendix G.)

19. Exploses Burning Fluids.—On the 22d day of June the Board adopted an anditional ordinance, prombiting the keeping, the exposing or offering for saic, and the setting or giving away, as a berning fluid, any petroleum of, kerosche oil or other liquid having like composition or qualities as a burning fluid, any petroleum of, kerosche oil or other highest and inference of the Fairenneit in the solid be of such quality and ingresses that it shall not evolve an infaminable vapor at a temperature below iso degrees of the Fairenneit incremoneter. By frequently submitting to a chemical analysis samples of burning fluids, purchased in different parts of the city, and by legal prosecutions whenever the ordinance was violated, it was behaved that the quality of the oil sold for this purpose would be improved, and that

many of the ceaths caused by its explosion would be prevented. But, subsequently, one of the Courted decked that the Board of leasth had no lurisdiction in the matter of the sale of adulterated burning fluids, and from that time its action has been limited to obtaining such information in regard to the trade, through the investigations of the chemist, as, when published, would be of importance to the public, and aid, indirectly, in suppressing the trade in dangerous kerosene. In order to remer the information serviceable the locard directed the chemist, on the eath of March, to embody his investigations in a report, to be published in the annual report. The report of the chemist (see Appendix I) contains a full statement of the meth-also manufacturing kerosene, and all the circumstances attending its adultication.

While there has been a manifest improvement in the quanty of the kerosene since investigations have been made of the attacks soid by various dealers, and this information was published, yet the cassalities which almost adily occur from its use show how largely the market is still supplied with an adulticated and dangerous burning fluid.

2. Manufacture of blum naturing fais.

2. Manufacture of blum naturing fais.

2. Manufacture of blum naturing fais, and complaints of oncurve odors from these establishments are now rarely received. Since the last report upon this subject the Metropoinan dashight company has introduced the "mon process" of purification with complete success. The New York Company has introduced the "mon process" as, in the opinion of the calends, to be no longer a nuisance.

Company had previously adopted the same process with excellent results, while the Mannattan has so perfected its "dry-line process" as, in the opinion of the caemist, to be no longer a nuisance.

21. Disinfection and Disinfectants.—buring the present year the Board has maintained an endicant direction of the City Sanitary Inspector, has been actively employed in the purification of premises where contagious discusses prevament, and in reinfering language and it kinds of engagine matter not promptly removed. The value of disinfection having over ludy established by different sanitary authorities, and the kinds of disinfections best adapted to the various forms of putrescent matter and for the purification of clothing and dwellings having been decided upon, after making the proper chamical tests, the Board has not lessituated to approve all requisitions for disinfectants and to encourage their fiberal use. Finally atters in the transmit house districts have been decided and distributed the contraged their fiberal use. Finally atters in the transmit house districts have been decided and distributed the contraged their fiberal use. Finally atters in the transmit house districts have been decided and distributed the contraged their fiberal use.

the proper chemical tests, the Board has not lessitated to approve altrequisitions for disinfectants and to encourage their fiberal use. Fitting gutters in the tenement house districts have been cleaned and disinfected, and it has been made a part of the only of light scaveogers to disinfect all privies and the contents thereof at the time such contents are removed. In the treatment and care of contagions diseases districted by the others of the doard with the most substactory results. The rooms and abuses where such diseases prevailed have been foundated; whom necessary the clothing and bedding days over cleansed and districted, and all diseases where such districted and districted, and all diseases waters such districted and districted, and all diseases and sources of four emanations about the sick have been districted or destroyed. And the Board is fully convinced that an efficient and intelligent districtant corps and the fiberal use of districtants are most valuable atwinteres in preserving the public health and preventing the spread of disease.

22. Cure of Confagious Diseases.—In addition to the use of districtions of the board has been, as far as possible, to isolate the sick by their removal to the hospitals, tuness they can be properly cared for and isolated at home. In cases of cholera, smallpox, relapsing, typhus, typhoid and yellow fevers, unless provided with good nomes and proper care, the parents are removed to the smallpox and lever hospitals. Relapsing fever prevails units four dy among the very indugent and the non-less, and the removal of the patients are desired in the smallpox and lever hospitals. Relapsing fever prevails units four dy the Commissioners of Charities and Correction, who have provided ample accommodations and surface facilities for that quirpose. Resistance is rarely made to such removal of smallpox patients. The Board has provided suitable ambulances for the removal of apatients and Correction are not cabed upon to act. In smallpox cases the vaccharion and manufactary remov

the found.

The failure of physicians to report promptly cases of contagions of leases to the Board frequently results in the spread of contagion before its existence is known to the orders of the Board. This neglect is to be attributed generally to the carelessness of the attending physicians, many of whom had to appreciate the importance of preventive measures and the value of the antiday officers in hinting and arresting like progress and spread of contagion. Whenever physicians are known to have violated the santary code in this particular the Board has ordered suits to be commenced for the penalty. That the physicians of the city may not be ignorant of this important duty the found as direct the City Santary Inspector to forward to them printed notices, containing the sections of the santary code relating to this subject, and defining what are considered to be contagious diseases by this department.

The experience of the Board, in its enorts to control the spread of contagious diseases during the prevatence of relassing fever and smallpox not having proved satisfactory, the Santary committee was instructed, on the did of March, to examine the methods at present employed, and the location, capacity and management of the hospitals devoted to this class of the sick, and report what action the Board should take to remore its work more effective. The committee reported (see Appendix K) that the methods pursued by the Board against the spread of contagious diseases were all the most approved character, and, when the measures were fully carried out, gave the most satisfactory results. But there were serious obstacles to the thorough appreciation of preventive measures, and these must be overcome before the community would reap their full value. The first obstacle mentoned was the inefficient sanitary care of those sick persons who were allowed to remain at home in the care of friends and an attending physician. The committee did hot think that, in the present stace of popular enlarments as to the natural of the

not think that, in the present state of popular enlightenment as to the nature of the poison of contagious diseases and the value of preventive measures, the Board could enforce any more stringent regulations against this class of persons.

The second obstacle noticed was the imperfect control which the Board han of the sk.k poor, who were proper subjects for hespital care. Mean removed from their homes these persons are delivered to the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction and placed in hospitals unier their charge. These hospitals, when hispected, were found to be inacquate in capacity and seriously defective in sanitary applicances and precautionary measures, both in their external and internal management. In view of these lacts the committee concluded that

inaucquate in capacity and seriously detective in sanitary appliances and precationary measures, both in their external and internal management. In view of these facts the committee concluded that the interests of the public health required that the board of Health should have the exclusive coatrol of all persons sick of contagious diseases who are sent to hospital, and recommended that the Board take the necessary steps to enable it to provide hospital accommodations for this class.

23. Smanipor.—This disease exhibited a marked temency to become epidemic in New York during the year. Not with shading the very thorough vaccination that had been practised in isof throughout the tenement noise districts the year 1870 opened with a large increase of cases, especially in the Eleventh, Seventeenth, Elementh and Nineteenth wards. In adoition to the work of vaccination by the corps of inspectors the Board caused outless to be posted throughout the city announcing that gratiations vaccination might be obtained at the different additional contents, and gring information as to their location and the hours of attendance. The number vaccinated was thereby largely increased and the progress of the epidemic was for the time arrested, but increased as the early part of the early part of still smallpox applicants of smallpox on board. During the latter part of the year 1870 and the early part of 1871 smallpox applicants to have attained an almost world-wide prevalence. It not only became epidemic in many of the year 1870 and the early part of 1871 smallpox appears to have attained an almost world-wide prevalence. It not only became epidemic in many parts of the United States and in European cities, but in many cities and previnces of Asia and South America, and in the Islands of the Pacific, and it prevailed with great and unusual severity. Towards the close of the year the epidemic tendency of smallpox began to be exhibited again in New York. The cases reported were wheely scattered, but sufficiently nursual to prove the necessity of vigorous measures to keep it under control. The number of inspectors was largely increased, and every case was promptly isolated, either at nome or in hospital, and vaccinaisolated, either at home or in hospital, and vaccina-tion was again practised throughout the tenement nouses. The epidemic at no time assumed such alarming proportions as in many other cities, and toward the close of the first quarter of 1871 began to decline rapidly. coine rapatly.
This extraordinary prevalence of smallpox over

various parts of the globe, especially to countries where vaccination has long been efficiently prac-tised; its occurrence in its most ratal form in per-

where vaccination has long toes enliciently practised; its occarrence in his most man form in persons who gave evidence of having been well vaccinated, and the remarkable susceptibility of people of all ages to successual revaccination, are new facts in the history of this pestinene walch must lean to a remivestigation of the whole subject of vaccination and of its claims as a protecting agent. There can be no doubt that there is a growing skepticism in the public mind as to the real value of vaccination, and this skepticism has been much satengthened by the repeated occurrence of small-pox, during the past year, in persons who were presumed to have been properly vaccinated. But the nedical profession, and especially the more advanced students of contagious diseases, note firmly to the faith of Jenner, that vaccination is a sure proventive of smallpox when the individual is brought completely under its influence.

24. Feacon Feer,—veilow feverappeared within the limits of this city during the summer and fait of 1876. This was its first appearance in New York since 1822, hearly haif a century ago. The outbreak occurred among the troops and residents of Governor's Island, in the early part of August. The island has fong ocen a mintary station, and is under the exclusive jurisdiction of the United states. Its total population at the time of the outbreak was upwards of 800, censisting of troops and camp followers. It has its own hospital and burying ground, and makes no returns of stekness or deaths to the health Department of New York. No knowledge of any unusual sockness upon the island was received by the Espartment of New York. No knowledge of any unusual sockness upon the island was received by the Beard of Health until september, when taree deaths of the partment of the par

surgeon of the post as a severe form of Intermittent and remittent fever. The history of this suckness was not so definitely obtained by the inspectors who visited the Island as to render the diagnosis certain, though the question of the possibility of its being yellow fever was raised. Another case occurring soon after in New York, after exposure on the Island, was carefully examined and decided to be yellow fever; and an inspection of the recent cases on the Island, by Special inspector Dr. J. C. Nott, condrued by the providing sickness on the Island, by Special inspector Dr. J. C. Nott, condrued the Section of the Island by the Island of the Island be manufamed by the military authorities. In order to save the remaining troops and residents from an attack of the fever, the Board, on the the October, advised the Medical Director of this Military Department to take such measures as would immediately cause an entire evacuation of Governor's Island of all its garrison and other residents, save only such number as might be absolutely necessary for the protection of property left Unereon, and in effecting the evacuation the following measures were rebommencel:—All clothing time wo in by the garrison, all bedding and other textil fabrics these upon its island that might have become infected, should be left upon it and undergo a process of disinfection by steam heat. The old wooder buildings Howe were worked to the military perpartment, the public measures were rebommend to an experiment of this Board and of the benefits or cellars under them filled up to a level with adjacent grounds. The Board also advised that Governor's Island remain vacated as a garrison for troops, and maler affect dear the South Eastery." Should be left upon it and the control of this Military Department, the public neath could not be endangered by the re-required to report and the country of this Military Perpartment, the public neath country of this Military Perpartment, the public neath country of this Board and of the soon residents and t

While the military authorities have generally exhibited marked couriesy to the omicers of this board, and manuested an earnest acsire to co-operate in enheadful forcing sanitary regulations, yet a marked exception occurred in the case of the epidemic or Governor's island (see Appendix I, which, under other circumstances, might have placed the city in great peril. Such contingencies can only be prevented by an order from the War Department at Washington, making the heath ordinances and regulations of the city paramount to all military regulations.

Washington, making the health ordinances and regulations of the city paramount to all military regulations.

25. Reapsing Fover.—The past year was rendered memorable by the appearance of relapsing fover in New York. This was the first recognized appearance of this fever in this city, and its phenomena attracted much attention from the medical profession, while the sandary aspects of the epidemic were carefully studied by the medical officers of this Board. Althouga the tever was not recognized antification of the sandary studied by the medical officers of this Board. Althouga the tever was not recognized antification in the sandary studied by the medical officers of this Board. Althouga the tever was not recognized antification in the same type of the two or three months proceeding, having been mistaken for remittent, typhus and typhold revers. By resolution of the Board this fever was declared to be of a contagious or infectious nature within the meaning of the fifth section of the Santary Code, and was incorporated with the diseases mentioned in that section, and the same reports were required relative to any disease mentioned in said section. The fever proved to be so contagious that the immediate removal of the size to nospital and inortonic cleansing and disinfection of their apartments became indispensable, in the judgment of the Board, to control its spread. As this fever, from its contagious character, required separate and isolated hospitals, the Board requested incomissioners of Charities and Correction to provide additional hospital accommodations, which request was promptly acceded to, and a "Relapsing fever hospital" was opened on Hart's Island. This hospital proved to be of great service, for the subjects of twofold importance, as they were thus provided with necessary isolation and treatment. The City Sanitary Inspector was canowered to take summary measures to insure the necessary cleansing and disinfection of the apartments occupied by persons having the disease hence of the expector of the was

summary measures to insure the necessary cleansing and distinction of the apartments occupied by persons having this disease, whenever the owner did not clean and distinct the premises, and he was authorized to expend a sum not to exceed ten collars in any one house in cleaning, distincting and whitewashing such house; and in each case be was directed to send a onl of the expenses for cleaning, distincting and whitewashing to the owner of the premises, and to use all reasonable effort to secure the payment of the same.

The direct mortality from this disease proved to be small compared with the number of persons attacked, the total number of deaths being 184 for the year 1870. The more important features which it presents to sanitary authorities are its contagious nature; the class of persons most susceptible, viz., the destitute and poorly fed and housed; the effect which cleansing and distincting have in controling its spread; its debilitating influence upon the sick, rendering convalescence fedicus and liable to dangerous or fatal complications, and thus tending to increased paperism. It proved to be in a remarkable degree under the control of preventive measures, when thoroughly applied, the principal obstacle being the intibility of the Board to exercise any supervision of the movements of the vagrant, hometess class, among which it prevailed. The history of this epidemic and the lessons tearned from experience in its management and control are given at length in a perfect of the sanitary committee. (See Appendix K.)

26. Scarlatina.—This most destructive disease of innancy was very prevaicat and stail during the

experience in its management and control are given at length in a report of the sanitary committee. (see Appendix K.)

26. Scarlatina.—This most destructive disease of inlancy was very prevaient and ratal during the past year. From every point of view this scourge of childhood must be regarded as demanding the most rigorous measures, both of prevention and treatment. It is peculiarly a disease of early life, the adult being but slightly susceptiole to it, and hence every precaution should be taken to prevent an attack in childhood, and thus secure the immunity of age. The contagious principle, though very affusible and of intense activity, can be effectually destroyed by agencies employed in every acusehold, white many of its most fatal complications may be prevented by care and freatment. With adequate power and means to fully apply the necessary measures of prevention this disease may be brought under complete control, and it is to be hoped that the day is not distant when every case of scarlatina may be as effectually isolated and subjected to as rigid care as are those of choiers, smallpox or typhus lever.

27. Measles and Whooping Cough.—These contagious diseases of account of their mild character, especially in early life. The popular beneficially in early life. The popular beneficial in the universal susceptibility of persons of all ages and conditions to one attack of measles, and of its greater fatality among adults than children, has hade this domestic disease a not unwelcome visitant to the family, and rendered the enforcement of santary regulations more difficult than in other contagious diseases.

Whooping cough is closely allied to measles as a millu contagious disease over which the santary authorities have not exercised any special control. And yet, as these diseases are chiefly fatal from complications, which are prevented by proper care and treatment, it becomes an important question by provision, to be adequate, would require suitable hospitals or refuges to which the sick could be removed, w

pications to which the respective diseases are liable.

2s. quaranties.—The want of smitable warehouses where merchandise, arriving in the port of New York in vessels subject to quarantine, may be discharged and freed from infection has long been a serious burden upon commerce, by rendering it necessary that soon merchandise be discharged upon ingiters at a considerable distance from shore, thereby adming largely to the expenses of importation. Such merchandise is composed chiefly of goods which are subject to daty under the revenue laws of Congress, and must, of necessity, be subject to the control of the revenue officers of the general government. On the sth day of June the foard adopted a preamble and resonations on this subject, expressing the opinion that it is the duty of congress to provide immediately for the erection of one or more warehouses at some point near the anchorage for vessels under quarantine, where merchandise arriving therein may be discharged and disinfected without delay, and without the additional expense now imposed upon the shipper by the discharge of goods upon highlers femole front the whateves of the city. The Board, by resolution, requested his Excellency the Governor of this State to transmit to the President of the United States a copy of the presimile and resolutions above referred to, and to respectfully requested that the attention of Congress be called to the